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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Argentina

DATE DISTR. 27 September 1948

SUBJECT Byelorussian and Ukrainian Groups in Argentina

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1. A recent instance of the Soviet Embassy's attempt to control the Byelorussian community in Argentina was that of Igor Budarin, Soviet Charge d'Affaires, who, when informed that one (fmu) Gailewicz, a Byelorussian and a resident of Argentina for over 20 years who is employed in the Banco Holandes, was counseling his compatriots to disassociate themselves from militant Communist activities because of the possibility of reprisals by the Argentine government, called Gailewicz to the Soviet Embassy and accused him of being "an enemy of the Soviet". Budarin claimed that unless Gailewicz changed his attitude and complied strictly with orders and policies as laid down by the Soviet, reprisals would be taken against his brother in the Soviet Union. Gailewicz replied that he had not seen his brother since the latter was a baby and did not even know him, whereupon Budarin became furious and abruptly ended the interview.
2. The position of Trofim Laszuk (cf. [redacted] as head of the Byelorussian Communist colony in Argentina is endangered by the rivalry of Constantino Bresski, a favorite of the Soviet Attaché Igor K. Kolosovsky. Bresski, a Polish Jew, is said to be much better educated and cleverer than Laszuk. However, Laszuk is endeavoring to maintain his position.
3. A group of Ukrainian Communists recently attempted to assault the headquarters of an anti-Communist, nationalistic Ukrainian organization, located at Calle San Lorenzo 683 in San Martin, for the purpose of disrupting a meeting to be attended by Professor Eugene Onatsky (Onacki), head of the anti-Communist Ukrainian group Widrozdzenie, and Michal (Miguel) Grabinski, leader of the anti-Communist Comite Ukranio Unido. However, Onatsky's agents learned of the plan in time to prepare a counter-assault which resulted in a street fight. Neither side sought police intervention and the Communists were finally expelled.
4. Mikolaj Antuch, an active Ukrainian Communist who had noisily advocated that all "Fascists" (anti-Communists) should be killed, was recently reported to have been murdered in Rosario, Santa Fe Province. Members of the Byelorussian Communist Jacob Kolas Society were informed that the murder had been committed by Ukrainian nationalists, followers of Onatsky, with the knowledge and secret assistance of the Argentine police. It was also

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announced at a meeting of this group that some Ukrainian and Byelorussian Communists had disappeared, others had been arrested and interrogated by third-degree methods, and several homes had been searched by the police.

5. Constantino Komaruk Lazarchuk, statistician of the Union Eslava, is using his influence to gain financial support for the Ukrainian Communist Ivan Franco Library in Olivos. He is allegedly organizing "shock troops" among the youths of that organization.

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